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Winter in Algeria

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By G. Guiauchain

Comité Algérien de Propagande et d'Hivernage

Published
By the Imprimerie Algérienne
Algiers
1901

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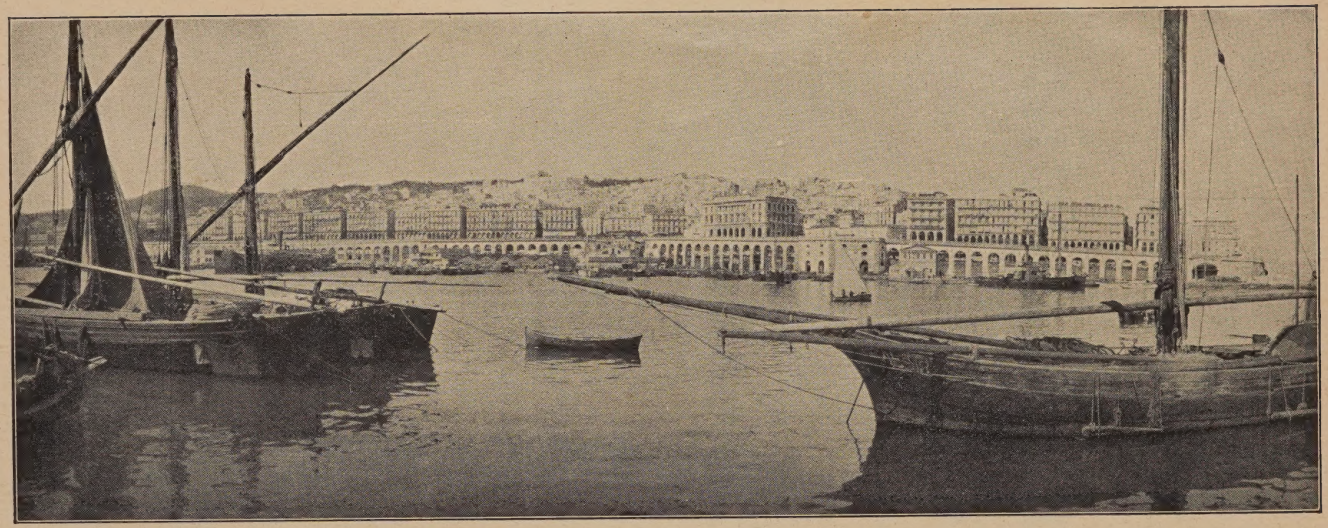
ALGIERS



THE INHABITANTS AS SEEN NATIVE CARICATURIST

ALGERIA, though quite near Europe, is very little known. It is a healthy and agreeable country to live in, full of the enchantment of the East. Although situated on the coast of Africa it is easy and inexpensive to reach. Leaving London on a Tuesday morning the traveller is in Algiers early on Thursday afternoon and the return ticket is £. 15. 19. 6 first class.

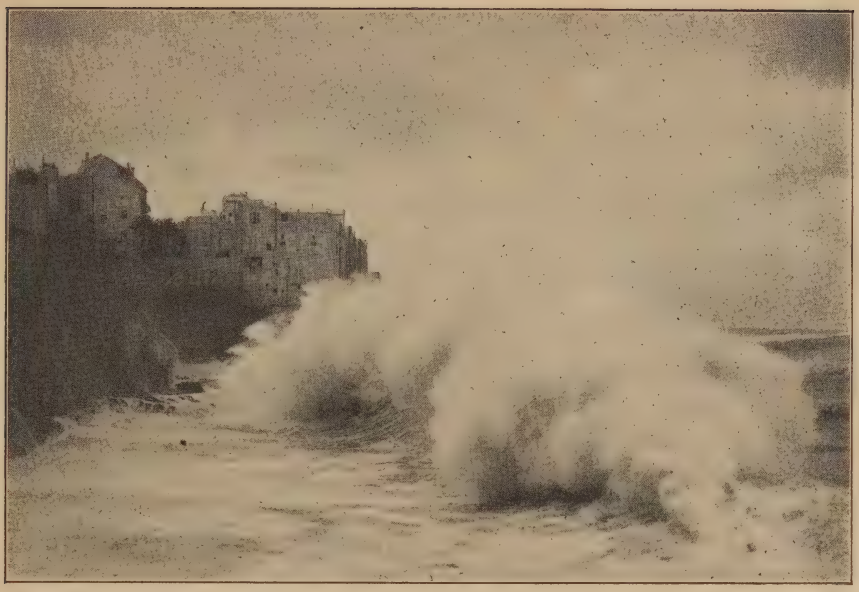
From New York, Algiers may be reached by the fast and comfortable steamers of the Hamburg-American Line which touch every fortnight at Algiers to land passengers desirous of studying the historical town and its surroundings.

These passengers will enjoy frequent opportunities of resuming their cruise in the Mediterranean, the same Company contracting to take them on by any later steamer they may choose.

Steamers leave London, Liverpool, Gibraltar, Trieste, Amsterdam, Hamburg, etc., frequently for Algiers at very low fares and the International Sleeping Car Company will inaugurate this season a service of trains running twice a week between Paris and Cartagena, Oran and Algiers, and Constantine and Biskra.

This little book cannot pretend to describe the whole of Algeria but it may give a sufficiently comprehensive idea of the most characteristic districts, referring the visitor to either Cook's Office or the Algerian Winter Committee for more complete and detailed particulars.

The Algerian Winter Committee, n° 1, rue Combes, Algiers, is most happy to give the information its members have collected on Algeria, and does all in its power to render a visit more agreeable by organising excursions, Arab spectacles, concerts and other entertainments.



Collection Eugène Michel

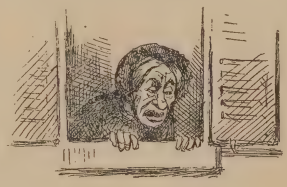
A REMNANT OF THE OLD PIRATE TOWN NEAR « THE TURKISH PORT »

« PLACE DU GOUVERNEMENT » ALGIERS

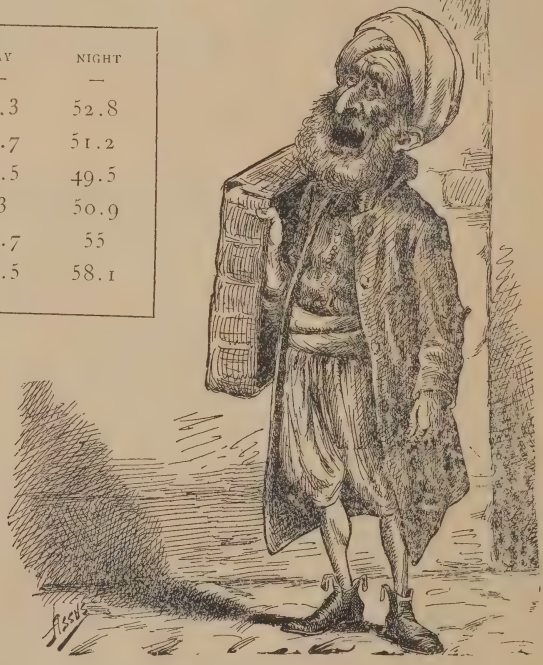
Climate

The climate of Algiers is wonderfully mild and equable. The icy winds of the Riviera and the dusty blasts of Cairo are unknown to its favored inhabitants.

We give a table of the mean day and night temperatures as observed during the last five seasons.



	DAY	NIGHT
November.	65.3	52.8
December..	62.7	51.2
January....	62.5	49.5
February ..	63	50.9
March.....	70.7	55
April.....	71.5	58.1



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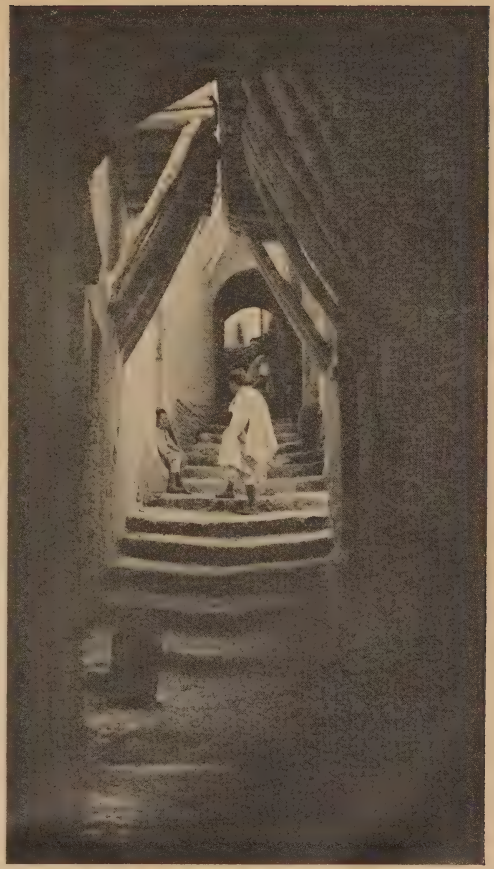


Collection Eugène Michel

TWO VIEWS OF THE ARAB TOWN

Lovers of seabathing will find on the southern coast of the Mediterranean, even in mid-winter more genial waters than are ever accessible from English shores.

Mists are also unknown during the winter. It never freezes and a fall of snow, in January 1891, was an event which has not since been experienced.

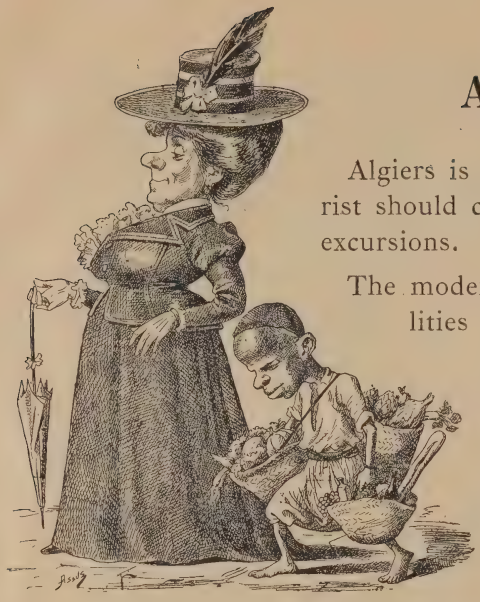
Rain never falls for long together so that visitors need not fear being kept indoors many consecutive hours. The water is good and the sanitary arrangements most carefully attended to.

The first effect of the climate is to give sleep and appetite.

The climatic and hygienic qualities of Algeria have earned the very favourable opinion of the many doctors who have studied them.

Of these the most recent is that of the eminent London physician Dr E. Symes Thompson who visited Algeria in the winter of 1900-1901.

ANOTHER STREET IN THE ARAB TOWN



Algiers

Algiers is the spot which the tourist should choose as a base for his excursions.

The modern town has all the facilities of an European one for obtaining both necessaries and luxuries. Provisions are cheap and varied, the genial climate affording green peas, artichokes and beans all the winter. It is also quite easy to obtain inexpensive accommodation either in furnished apartments or in an hotel. Prices are suited to every purse. The principal hotels in the town are the Étrangers, the Oasis and the Régence, where the *pension* seldom exceeds ten shillings a day.

Above the modern town, which runs along the quays, is the old town which has remained exactly as it was in the time of the Pirates.

Shadowy and mysterious, its streets take one into an unfamiliar world. He who would enjoy it fully should have no definite plan, no fixed aim in his rambles. He should wander through it at his leisure, in the morning, if possible, when the sun gives the best light and the streets are full of life.

A MOORISH COURT-YARD IN THE ARAB TOWN

Above all, the visitor should find his way into an Arab house and surprise the Arab women in the midst of their home, busy preparing the *cousscouss*, the national dish, or weaving carpets and stuffs.

The inhabitants are as interesting as the town. We give a few illustrations as specimens. The fantastic contrast of modern civilisation and primitive Eastern customs has inspired our caricaturist.

A MOORISH COURT-YARD IN THE COUNTRY

When strolling over the old town, the Mosque of Sidi-Abderrhaman should not be missed. Though small, it is charming and the tomb of the Saint, in a room panelled with Persian tiles of priceless value, is most interesting. The whole of the Arab town is rich in artistic surprises.

MOSQUE OF SIDI-ABDERRHAMAN

Crossing a church-yard, a lane, continued by steps, leads to the door of the Saint's tomb.

Mustapha

Mustapha, the rural suburb of Algiers, occupies a range of green hills studded with flowers; turned towards the rising sun, it overlooks the incomparable beauties of the bay crowned by the snowy caps of the distant Atlas: a panorama with scarcely a rival in the world.

Here is situated the Governor's Palace, here also the villas and hotels in which the winter visitor loves to dwell.

Electric trams run frequently between Algiers and Mustapha.

The principal hotels, beginning with the furthest from Algiers, are: the Splendid, the St-George, the Kirsch and the Continental. The smaller ones, enumerated in the same order are: the Olivage, the Grand, the Beau Séjour the Oriental and the Anglo-Suisse.

Numerous foreign residents possess villas in Mustapha and spend the winter there. These residents form the nucleus of society.

Golf links, lawn-tennis, garden-parties, balls, theatricals, and «at homes» enhance the delight of a winter in Algiers.

Walks

The great charms of Algiers are the country around, so green and flowery and especially so rich in glorious panoramas; the historical significance of its monuments of the past; and the social interest of its living types of civilisation.

Collection Eugène Michel

The walks and drives are countless, often shadowed and hedged with aged olive trees like the lane of the Sacré-Cœur.

Picturesque paths like the Kablé which winds under a canopy of oleanders loaded with tropical creepers.

This road, leading down from Mustapha to the Fontaine-Bleue, is rich in rare plants and specimens of tropical flora.

Through the palms which skirt the shore appears a graceful panorama of the town and harbour of Algiers. On returning from this walk it is interesting to visit the principal Arab cemetery.

Collection Eugene Michel

MOORISH WOMAN

Do not miss visiting Bouzareah, the highest spot in the neighbourhood of Algiers whence the panorama is simply superb.

CEMETERY OF BOUZAREAH

See the mosque, the negro village and the cemetery which are most curious.

Blida, the Ruisseau des Singes and the Marobout of El-Kébir is a longer but most interesting drive.

The one and two day excursions are numerous and interesting. Let us mention, above all, Hammam R'Irha with its hot springs, four hours from Algiers. It is noted for its bracing air and its waters. It possesses a perfectly appointed hotel with a hundred rooms.

Here is a view of Tipaza, charmingly situated among Roman ruins on the sea-shore.

Then Bougie with its powerful light-house, the Chabet-el-Akra (the way to death) and the road to Djidjelli with its grottoes.

Collection Eugène Michel

Finally we mention Kabylia, curious not only for its natural splendours but also for the interest that attaches to its inhabitants.

The Kabyles, the original inhabitants of the soil, were driven back by successive conquerors to the mountain fastnesses of the Atlas.

Collection Eugène Michel

KABYLE VILLAGE

They have preserved their customs as they were at the time of the Roman conquest. The oil-press will show that they have not changed their primitive industries.

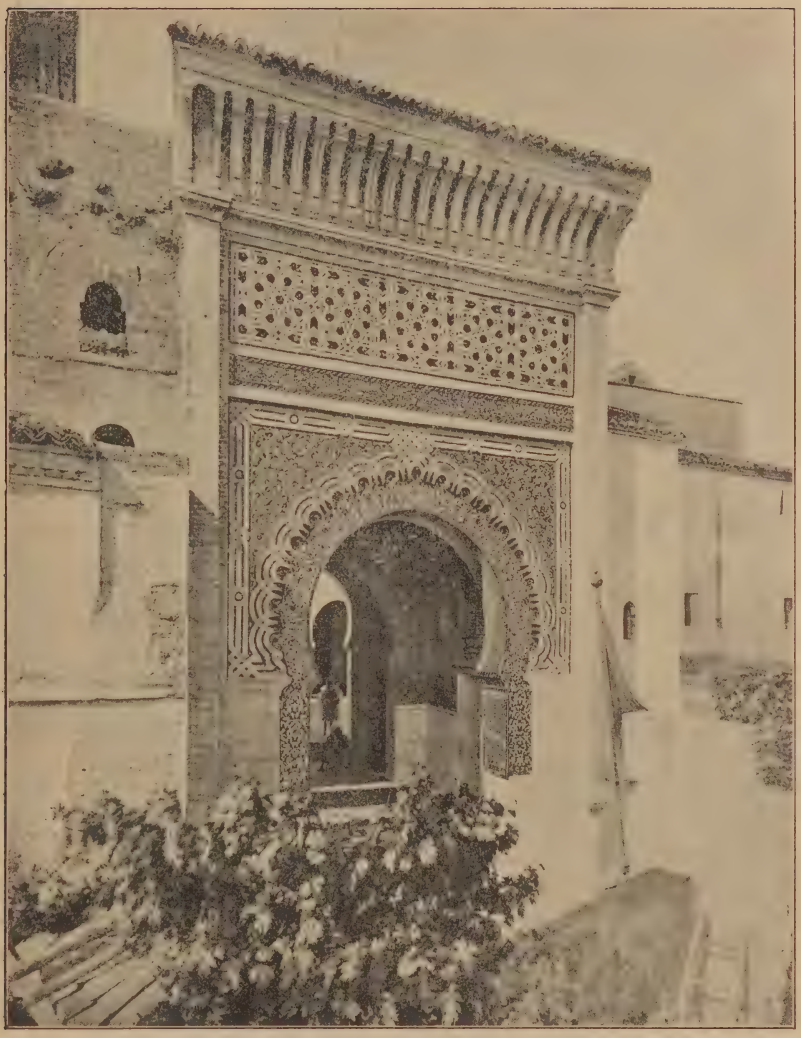
Collection Eugène Michel

KABYLE WOMAN DRESSED FOR A HOLIDAY

Excursions

After the short trips come the more lengthy excursions. First on the road to Oran there is the forest of Teniet-el-Haad, the cedars of which surpass in beauty those of Lebanon.

From the Forest, a charming view of the last undulations of the Atlas range where it meets the Desert.



Further Tlemcen, with its twenty five mosques, rivals of the monuments of Granada.

On the line to Constantine, stop at Bordj-bou-Arreridj to see M'Sila which is not far off. It is an Arab town of a most primitive type ; here, already, the neighbourhood of the Chott-el-Hodna gives the weird effects of the boundless desert spaces.

Further on, on the other side of the Chott (Lake), is Bou-Saada, beloved of artists. Nowhere else do the southern splendours of nature attain such majestic size.

The arrival at Bou-Saada of a high official is always a chance for the Arabs to *faire parler la poudre.*

ARAB MARKETPLACE IN THE SOUTH

HOMES OF THE OULED-NAIL WOMEN

Further on the main line is Constantine built on a rock surrounded by precipices below which the Rhummel roars.

Further still, on the borders of the desert, a new Pompeii rises from the sands in which it had been engulfed. This is Timgad, a Roman city in an almost perfect state of preservation.

STREAM WATERING AN OASIS

Collection Eugène Michel

MOSQUE OF BISKRA

Collection Eugène Michel

Further South still, after El-Kantara (the Gate of the Desert) lies Biskra, on the threshold of the Great Desert, where the railway ends.

At Biskra, as at Bou-Saada, are to be seen remarkable types of the Southern woman.

KSOUR OF EL GOLEA

Thus the magnificence of a luxuriant vegetation, the ever varying surface of the landscape, the deathlike solitudes of the desert, the imposing remnants of a past civilisation and everywhere a population whose purity of race remains untouched, would seem to have been gathered together to charm the traveller.

What country, at 24 hours from Europe, can offer as much ?

Collection Eugène Michel

A STREET IN BISKRA

Useful Hints

STEAMERS	
Marseilles to Algiers	**Compagnie Générale Transatlantique**, leaves Marseilles Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays 1 p. m. Direct rapid service 25 hours, 1st. class 120 frcs, 2nd class 85 frcs. Also the Transatlantique commercial service, 30 hours sea voyage. Leaves Marseilles thursday at 1 p. m. same fare.
	Compagnie de Navigation Mixte, leaves Marseilles. Thursday evening 4 p. m. 1st. class 95 frcs, 2nd. class 65 frcs 30 hours sea voyage.
	Compagnie Générale de Transports Maritimes, leave Marseilles on Wednesdays and Saturdays at 6 p. m. 1st. class 95 frcs, 2nd. 70 frcs.
	N. B. — These three Companies have entered into an arrangment with the different railway Companies for the circular tickets. They also make a reduction of 10 per cent upon the three months return tickets to and from Marseilles.
Liverpool to Algiers	**The Papayanni Line** leaves Liverpool twice a month 1st. class 250 frcs.
	Moss Steamship Company leaves Liverpool twice a month first class 250 francs.
Gibraltar to Algiers	**Hamburg American Line** leaves Gibraltar the 30 th. October, 16 th. November, 30 th. November, 17 th. December, 11 th. January, 6 th. February, 18 th. February. 29 th. February.
	Moss Steamship Company leaves Gibraltar twice a month.
New-York to Algiers	**Hamburg American Line** leaves New-York 23 th. October, 9 th. November, 23 th. November, 10 th. December, 4 th. January, 11 th. January, 30 th. January, 11 th. February, 22 th. February. Sea voyage 9 days. New-York office : 37 Broadway.

On arrival in an unknown country the traveller is naturally in want of a guide until his personnal experience permits him to find his way unaided. Therefore we give a few useful hints.

Carriages

Each cab has a printed tarif which the tourist should procure beforehand and decide upon the fare for the drive which he wishes to take.

For hiring horses and carriages by the hour, day, week or month apply to **M. Jules Vitoz,** 103 to 105, rue Michelet, Mustapha-Supérieur, or to 28, rue d'Isly, Algiers. He supplies first class carriages of every description. His stables for riding horses are well known. He will also undertake to supply horses and carriages for excursions into the interior, he has an excellent riding school. One can also find in this establishment Arab horses of the purest breed for sale.

Hôtels

The hotels in the town of Algiers are not very numerous. The **Hotel de la Régence** in full south is very well situaded on the Place du Gouvernement. Lift, very good service.

The **Hotel de l'Oasis**, boulevard de la République. Facing the sea. Restaurant, lift, telephon. Baths. Electric light.

At Mustapha Supérieur the first class hotels are : on the highest point the **Splendid Hotel** in an incomparable situation, with a splendid panorama of Algiers and the Bay. Modern comfort. Large gardens. Lawn tennis. The electric trams communicating with the town pass every half hour near the hotel. Omnibuses meets all steamers. Open all the year.

Nearer Algiers is the **Grand Hotel Saint-George** with drawing, reading, smoking, billiard rooms. Also Ball-Room with stage for amateur theatricals. Large garden with splendid sheltered terrace, on which there is a restaurant where private luncheons dinners and afternoon tea can be given. The electric trams pass the hotel every quarter of an hour.

Hotel Kirsch. Proprietor J. Kirsch. Exceptional situation. Gardens, large salons, billiard, etc. Trams for the town every quarter of an hour. M. Kirsch is also proprietor of the **Prince of Wales Hotel** at Bab-Nauheim during the summer.

Grand-Hotel, Mustapha-Supérieur. Moderate terms. Good kooking. J. A. Spalek, manager.

	The **Hotel Continental**, still nearer Algiers, is a first class, and very well situated hotel. Full south. Lift. Lawn Tennis.
	Among second class hotels we may mention as the best the **Hotel Beau Séjour** very well placed on the Mustapha hill, where for a moderate price, one will find good accomodation.
Villas	Furnished villas are plentiful in the neighbourhood of Algiers. The large ones are chiefly situated at Mustapha Superieur and El-Biar, the smaller ones will be found on the Telemly road and the Village d'Isly. For location apply to **The English Grocery Stores** 15, rue d'Isly, or to **Barthelemy Vidal** & **Son** building contractors, they have the speciality of moorish buildings and can be relied upon in letting, buying, or constructing.
Land	There is plenty of land suitable for building purposes to be sold. That of Saint Raphael at El Biar is beautifully situated, and is now for sale at a very advantageous price. **Monsieur Bonessio**, 74, rue Michelet Algiers is the land agent.
Hygiene and Health	Mustapha Supérieur and El-Biar have good English doctors within easy reach, and the medical corps of Algiers enjoys well deserved reputation.
	For a dentist apply to **Monsieur Sintès**, boulevard de la République.
	The best and most important chemist in Algiers is **Pharmacie Obrecht**, 28, rue Bab-Azoun. With English and American specialities.
	At Mustapha, rue Michelet, 85, the **Pharmacie de la Station sanitaire** has all the English specialities. English, german, spanish are spoken.
	Ake Norlund, 56, rue d'Isly. Medical gymnaste and swedish masseur of the Liebeck institute at Stockolm.
	Massage **Madame Philomène Villedienne**, 8, rue Clauzel, Mustapha.

	Monsieur Frodon, of the Geneva medical university, maison Limozin, Place de la Republique. He is a very good masseur, pedicure and manucure.
	Lorenzy Palanca Perfumery, rue du Laurier, Algiers. Perfumery and articles for the toilet of all the principal makers of London and Paris. These articles are of the best quality and sold at the most moderate prices.
	P. Bissonnet, 8, rue de Constantine. Indiarubber articles for hygienic and travelling purposes.
	For sanitary arrangments **Monsieur J. Féraud**, 4, rue Michelet, Mustapha.
Various dealers.	**Léveilley Brothers**, furniture dealers, 14, rue de Constantine. They have a various stock of artistic furniture.
	N. Lelong, 11, rue Michelet, Mustapha. Manufacturer of cane chairs, tables, etc, for gardens, summer houses, and apartments. Speciality; comfortable armchairs.
	For household goods, lamps, stoves, gardening tools, guns, hardware **Coronel, Etievant, and Jacquard,** 3 rue Waisse, corner of the rue de la Liberté. This house has a stock of the best articles.
	Papeterie Baconnier, stationer, 7, rue de Strasbourg Algiers (near the Palais de Justice). Engraver, bookbinder. French library.
	Ledoux Brothers branch establishment of **Tinchant**, 7 boulevard de la République have a grand assortment of cigars, cigarettes and tobacco.
Photography	**A. de Noter**, 26, rue Bab Azoun supplies all articles for photography. He develops and prints for Amateurs.
	Eugène Michel, rue Michelet, near the Presbyterian Church. Photograph-Editor (Studio) Has the most complete and most artistic photographic collection of Algeria (2.900 vues).

Clothing

Madame Caze, dressmaker, passage Duchassing, Place du Gouvernement. Has all the latest Paris Models.

A. Maire, tailor, 3, boulevard de la République, makes a speciality of ladies costumes and riding habits.

Au Bon Marché. Fancy linen-draper. Latest novelties as regard to dresses blouses etc. for ladies.

Fassina & **Co**, 4, rue Bab Azoun. Haberdashery, hosiery and fancy drapery. This important house can be highly recommended.

Schweitzer, hatter, rue Bab Azoun. Hats for gentlemen and children.

Teinturerie Parisienne, 79 rue Michelet, Mustapha. P. Cambon successor of Olieu. Dry cleaning of made up costumes for ladies and gentlemen, silks, gloves, etc...

Squillante, Hairdresser. Under the Arcades of the Place du Gouvernement. First class establishment. English spoken.

Oriental Art

Oriental jewelry is always much appreciated by the visitors. They will find a large and varied assortment in the following shops. Each of which has its speciality.

Maison Famin, 12, rue Bab Azoun, succesor **Vitali Francès**. Arab carpets and embroderies, arab curiosities and arms. Speciality ancient and modern jewelry, old tiles and pictures.

Maison Flocon, rue Bab Azoun and at Tunis, rue d'Italie, Jeweler, goldsmith and watch-maker.

E. Dorez Brothers, 4, boulevard de la République. Speciality; old Arab curiosities, Kabyle jewely, native art.

Hotchand & **Co**, rue Bosa and Clauzel, Oriental and Algerian embroideries.

Provisions

Provision dealers are numerous and well stocked the principal are.

Maison Fille, 2 rue Bab Azoun, the most important confectioner in Algeria. Confectionery, ices, chocolates, afternoon tea. Supplies the Government House.

Saint-Marceaux Champagne. Reims. **S. Carré**, agent, rue de l'Abreuvoir, Algiers.

Au Fin Gourmet, 23, rue Bab Azoun, cooked provisions of the first quality confectionery and the finest fruit, butter, etc.

B. Cavalié, 10, rue de Chartres, Charcuterie française.

Stremler, 37, rue Michelet, Mustapha. Fancy Baker. Deliveries daily.

Syvoct, 5 rue d'Isly, French Grocer Agent for Félix Potin of Paris.

M. C. Macpherson, 27, rue d'Isly. English Grocer well supplied with all English groceries.

A. Béyégaz, 1, rue de la Colonie. Game and poultry from France. Wild boar and gazelle.

A. Roussel, 1, rue de la Colonie. Bottled and tin provisions. Butter and Chease.

A. Bernheim, 1, rue Vialar, near the Place du Gouvernement. Butcher.

Parcel post

Maison Lebel & Co, rue Clauzel, corner of the rue de l'Aigle. Export of the first fruits and vegetables from Algeria to the continent.

Cook's Tours

Nine days in Algiers for £17 17s. A Seventeen Days' Tour, Out and Home, via Paris and Marseilles. The Fare includes RAIL, STEAMER, and HOTEL for the whole period. Departures from LONDON every Tuesday.

Algeria is a land of sunshine, with a climate which competent authorities have pronounced one of the finest in the world. It is a region of charm and novelty, of camels and Arabs, of waving palms, magical mirages, and glorious sunsets. It also possesses mountain scenery of a sublimity equal to Switzerland, while few countries offer a wider field of instruction to the general traveller, or of study to the archæologist.

The above arrangement will, no doubt, meet the requirements of a large number of travellers desiring to exchange the cold and damp of the average English winter for two or three weeks under the sunny skies of the Northern Coast of Africa. The Tour affords an excellent opportunity, at a comparatively small outlay, of visiting the interesting city of Algiers, combined with a charming sea trip on the Mediterranean.

The travel tickets are available to return any time within 45 days.

Places of interest around Algiers

Kabylie	M. Félix Lagarde proprietor of the **Hotel Lagarde** at Tizi-Ouzou undertakes to arrange excursions to all parts of Kabylie, which he personally conducts. His great knowledge of the country and its inhabitants makes him a precious guide. He his able to make these excursions most interesting. Apply to him for arrangements and terms.
	From Tizi-Ouzou in crossing by carriage the " Djurjura " by the interesting " Col de Tirourda " you join the railway to Bougie.
	At Bougie the **Hotel d'Orient** is recommended to travellers for its exceptional situation and comfort. From there, carriages, crossing the Gorges du Chabet-el-Akra, bring the traveller to Sétif, station on the Constantine line.
Timgad	From Setif go to Batna at the **Hotel des Etrangers** where one can make arrangements to visit Timgad 40 kilometers far, a most interesting Roman town.
El-Kantara	In going further south towards Biskra do not miss visiting at **El Kantara** " the Door of the Desert ".
	This entrance to the desert is grand, and of quite a different character to Biskra. Excursions around El-Kantara are numerous and interesting. One will find at the **Hotel Bertrand** every facility for making the excursions easily and pleasently.
	The above tour is quite the most interesting one to be made in Algeria, because all the places one passes through have each its special character which certainly will be quite new for the traveller.

Cook's European & Oriental Tours,

EMBRACING

England, Scotland, Ireland, France, Germany, Austria, Holland, Belgium, Switzerland, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Russia, Greece, Turkey, India, Holy Land, Egypt, Algeria, South Africa &c., &c., &c., &c., &c.

Cook's British and Continental Tours, combine all points of interest. Hotel Coupons are also issued for First Class Hotels.

Algerian and Morocco Tours. — **Thos. Cook and Son** issue Tickets by any route to Algeria, and over the Algerian Railways and Diligences.

Tours to Palestine are rendered easy, safe, and economical by the superior arrangements of **Thos. Cook and Son**, who have their own Resident Managers in Beyrout, Jerusalem, and Jaffa, and their own tents and equipments.

Steam Navigation of the Nile. — **Thos. Cook and Son (Egypt), Limited,** possess a Fleet of Steamers specialy constructed for tourist traffic on the Nile. These Steamers are fitted with every modern improvement and ply between Cairo and the First and Second Cataracts. Cook's Express Service leaves Cairo twice a week for Luxor and Assouan during the season. Steel Dahabeahs fitted with every modern luxury.

Cook's conducted Tours have for many years been a most popular feature in their arrangements. Parties are organised to leave London weekly during the season for various parts of the Continent.

Cook's Hotel Coupons, available at about two thousand first-class hotels in various parts of the world.

Thos. Cook and Son's General Travelling Arrangements are so widely extended that they can supply Tickets to almost any point that Tourist may wish to visit, in some cases at reductions ranging from twenty-five to forty-five per cent. below ordinary fares.

Cook's Interpreters, in uniform, are present at the principal railway stations, landing places, or steamers, to assist passengers holding our travelling tickets.

Passengers' Baggage Insurance. — Travellers using Tickets issued by **Thos. Cook and Son** can have their baggage insured against losses incidental to travelling on payment of a small premium.

Programmes can be had gratuitously, on application at the Offices of Thos. Cook and Son, or by post, in return for stamps covering postage.

Cook's Excursionist and Tourist Advertiser is published at short intervals during the season, price 2d., post free 4d., and contains programmes and lists to the number of nearly one thousand specimen Tours, with fares by every route Tickets for which are issued by Thomas Cook and Son.

Guide Books. — The Guide Books published by Thos Cook and Son are both practical and concise.

Cook's Continental Time Tables and Tourist's Handbook. — Price 1s., contains the times of trains of the principal railroads on the Continent of Europe, combined with much information of general use to travellers; nine Sectional Maps, &c., &c.

Chief Office, Ludgate Circus, London. ALGIERS OFFICE, 3, Boulevard de la République.